Amendments to the Claims:

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for fine blanking of workpieces from a material (1), comprising:

a press plate (10) having a V-ring (11), which is under pressure from a V-ring cylinder (13) comprising a V-ring piston rod (15) connected to a V-ring piston (12) disposed opposite to and in support of the V-ring (11) of the press plate (10), and

a blanking punch (9) which is guided in the press plate (10) and to which a die plate (17) with counterholder (16) is assigned at a ram (7), wherein the ram (7) is supported against at least one compensation cylinder (22) and against at least one main cylinder (19.1, 19.2), and wherein the at least one compensation cylinder (22) is hydraulically connected to the V-ring cylinder (13) through a hydraulic connection (25) and is in hydraulic equilibrium with the V-ring cylinder (13), said hydraulic connection (25) also having a connection (26) to an oil tank via a logic valve (27).

2. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that four compensation cylinders (22) are provided.

3. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that a compensation piston (23) is arranged in the compensation cylinder (22) and is firmly connected to the ram (7) via a piston rod (24).

4. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that an effective cross-sectional area of the compensation piston (23) is equal to an effective cross-sectional area of the V-ring piston (12) of the V-ring cylinder.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that a piston (20.1, 20.2) of the main cylinder (19.1, 19.2) has an effective cross-sectional area which is greater than that of a compensation piston (23) of the compensation cylinder (22).

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) An apparatus for fine blanking of workpieces from a material, comprising:

a press plate having a V-ring;

a blanking punch guided in said press plate;

a ram comprising a die plate opposed to said press plate and a counterholder opposed to said blanking punch;

a V-ring cylinder connected to said press plate;

at least one compensation cylinder connected to said ram, wherein said V-ring cylinder is in hydraulic equilibrium with said compensation cylinder, and the at least one compensation cylinder is hydraulically connected to the V-ring cylinder

through a hydraulic connection, said hydraulic connection also having a connection to an oil tank via a logic valve; and

a main cylinder connected to said ram.